

Members of the Committee, all of us were shocked and saddened by the crash of the Navy airplane at Rio de Janeiro on February 25, 1960. One Naval officer and 18 Navy enlisted men lost their lives in that crash.

Since that sad occurrence, a variety of statements have been made, both in and out of the Press, concerning the method of transportation originally planned, as contrasted to the types of transportation ultimately used. Allegations have also been made that the Naval personnel involved in the trip were unable to obtain appropriate insurance to cover their travel by airplane which had not originally been scheduled.

I do not believe that this Committee is in any position to draw any conclusions with reference to this matter at this time. On the other hand, I think it incumbent upon the Committee to determine the facts and then determine an appropriate course of action.

In keeping with this conviction, and under authority previously granted me by Committee resolution, I have decided to appoint a special subcommittee to determine the facts in connection with this matter and make such recommendations as may be warranted to the full committee.

The membership of the subcommittee is as follows:

Mr. Kilday, Chairman

Mr. Huddleston

Mr. Stratton

Mr. Bates

Mr. Osmer

Mr. Slatinshek is assigned as counsel.